

P.12 June 1920

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P.W.

Scale How,

Ambleside.

My dear Chedarn

It is eight years since I had an opportunity of writing to each of you and to all of you as a body. Let me repeat the welcome that you received at Winchester in the words of Isaak Walton, that wise fisherman who gathered wisdom while he waited for the trout to rise:-

"I will tell you, Scholar, I have heard a grave Divine say that God has two dwellings: one in Heaven; and the other in a meek and thankful heart. Which Almighty God grant to me, and to my honest Scholar: and so you are welcome."

Some of you may still have the card with this motto among your treasures, but all of you, I know, have brought the meek and thankful heart that Isaak Walton desired for himself and his Scholar: meek, because we shall be thinking about great persons in a place touched with the magic of holy and serviceable lives; about the work in stone and on parchment of famous men and women of old and of the wonders of sea and sky and earth, of tales told by the very rocks, all uniting in a chorus:- "Great and marvellous are thy works and they ought to be had in remembrance."

Let us remember that the works of men indirectly, and the

work of Nature, directly, are the great and marvellous works of God. Thinking of these things, we shall be meek and very ready to learn, and so we shall find out that "the meek shall inherit the earth," for those things that we love and delight in are far more truly ours than the things, so easily spoilt, which money can buy.

A famous schoolmaster was asked by his boys to explain that saying of our Lord's about the meek, and he said,-

"Napoleon thought he inherited the earth by force of arms, and he died on Elba. Wordsworth had no such proud thoughts, but he did inherit the earth; all the Lake country and much of the world besides belongs to him still."

Being rich in these great things we shall be gentle and generous, and I am very sure you all have thankful hearts, thankful for Whitby and all that it means and will mean for all your lives; very thankful that God has set us in a world so full of beauty and joy; thankful to our kind and hospitable Whitby friends; thankful to the beloved friends who have brought you here, and tenderly thankful, I know, to those other kind friends who have taken great delight in planning and arranging for this wonderful week. That is how people writing to me about Whitby describe the Winchester Gathering, "that wonderful week".

How I wish I could be with you to share all your joys and to see your dear faces! - the more so, because you have made me

quite intimate with you in those examination papers which give me happy weeks; because I can see how happy you were in writing them, and what great joy you have in that knowledge, some of which you pour out in your papers.

I have news to tell you which will I think give you a great deal of pleasure. Nobody can enjoy a treat by himself; he wants other boys and girls to share it with him, and the bigger the treat the more friends he would have to share it. I know you think of the P.U.S. work as a treat. I get letters every day to tell me how much So-and-so enjoys his or her lessons, and, though I cannot see you to-day, I know what happy faces you carry. I wonder do you know what gives happy faces to children and grown-ups? Just this, people look happy when they have nice things to think about, and you have so many delightfully interesting things to occupy your minds that I have never seen an unhappy-looking P.U.S. Scholar.

When we are happy we long to make other people so too; therefore I know you will be delighted to know that thousands and thousands of children have joined the school since the Winchester days, and, what is better than all, many of them are in elementary schools; these dear children too wander in the woods with Titania and Oberon, pitch their tents on the plains of Palestine with King Richard, see the wonders of the Parthenon, and lift up their eyes to the hills and to the stars. Some of them, with their teachers

are, as you know, present at this Gathering, sharing in the generous welcome given to us by all our kind friends in Whitby and all of you together have your thoughts full of great and beautiful things, and mean to learn and be of use in God's wonderful world.

I wonder, would you like to add to your prayers at night, "God bless all children, parents and teachers in the P.U.S."

As you are by the seaside I should like to give you a verse to think of which I like very much. You recollect about that storm at sea when our Lord was asleep upon a pillow; this is what Keble says of it:-

"Well, if we pray till Thou awake!
A word, a glance from Thee
Soft silence in the soul can make,
Calm peace upon the sea."

I must not keep you from other pleasures by writing too long a letter, so I shall only add my very loving greetings to each of you.

Always your very affectionate friend,
CHARLOTTE M. MASON.

John Evans
Bamforth
12.12.1916

Seals Hall
Ambleside
Jan 4th 1917

My dear "Boisirs!"

It will be delightful to see you at Easter, if, indeed, considering the present restrictions on travelling, you be you way to undertake what would begin many of you a long & difficult journey.

Should you come, I suppose it will be as before; you will arrive on Thursday, the ~~14th~~ ^{15th} March; meet in the Classroom here on the Friday, & on the Saturday morning. We shall manage to put ourselves somewhat (with a great deal of pleasure) and, in the evening you will come here ~~to~~ ^{off} to an "At Home" just an occasion for

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taking a walking friend, & for giving
me the pleasure of seeing the dear
faces once more.

On the Sunday you usually come
here to early dinner & tea, & some
of you might care to join what you
used to call "Meditations."

Then, on Monday ^{morning} I wonder that
you have an Association Meeting though
you would like the present students
in the big classroom
to attend & in the evening, I think they
have it in view to produce a play
for you, unless you have other plans.

But none of this is fixed, so
please make any changes as may
occur to you, being always for the
pleasure of seeing you, & the hope
that the Conference may be a happy
(or what money will be given all
in the dark & uncertain days), is what
we care most about.

17/8/1914-290

I shall be particularly glad of an opportunity
to tell you of the great national work which
has come to us in these War days. Do
not all you have all heard something of the
introduction of P.G.S. work into elementary
schools, but you can hardly understand ^{them} seeing
it, understand the anxiety ~~with~~ by both
teachers & children, nor the cordial way
in which H. M. Inspectors & educational
authorities give their help; in Bradford
the Educational Committee is prepared
to at once a sum of ~~one~~ ^{one} thousand
in each school for books & stationery, in
order that teachers may, for the necessary
books.

Now, last Sunday (in South Wales)
Mr. G. R. Parry, F.R.Hist.S. & I talked
over a 'plan of campaign,' in very great
hurry. It was of Mr. and students, that, in
such cases, the parents & the young children
would probably be Social Workers or
members of Councils, & if you would like,

Want to see the prospects of

23/10/1919

1919? 1920?

It is very delightful to me to welcome you
as our man after so searching days though
what we have all passed. I think too the occasion
is rather a solemn one. I suppose you will feel
that you deserved your elevation when you see
you made up your mind to enter you fully
& wholly for law. I only responded to Nell,
when one of you was good & pitiful work
then now, you have been wonderfully loyal,
honest, united, enthusiastic. You have won
a good name of yourselves at the College, somehow
so that the demand for H.P. students is
excessive. Many times I regret the difficulty,
& the opening seems to be inextricable.

But since you have left here, a very great
vacation has come to us all. I am glad on your
discussions in the car on the 2 of Nov to keep up
to date. Now the coming thing that has happened
to us is that our application for keeping the
people's aspiration. Or that we are staying or leaving
is strange. By the first kind of our foot upon
us, within secret and ^{where} the intention of our human
diminished to nothing, while with us to a great extent

23/12/1910 2:30

as far as a great evil - the education of
Africans. I need not say that this
is an evil that we, & it is in the natural
way & Providence to work with such things
& to control, and should & will be more &
to walk softly & to rememberly, if we realize
if we realize that a man deliberately called
to do that which has not hitherto been done
in the world. It remembers the words of H. when
the last judgment comes upon the earth,
- we, in imagination, today & if we
mean important people, as permitted
now the acts of previous with the future
Promise of what we eat, etc. is not we
to put the names into words. In most of
& with full in a practising school with both
day & also as far as he has come to be called.
The we was quite little on account of
the strength of a great state of the like
should along we are not born from - up & as we
do could do King? and the shutters - up of
his life have been open in the direction that some
of us have been open in
& mortal & mortal. After a time & so, or in
will with - we: repetition & the experience with

Sesame 200

of knowledge
be recognis the element under which the child
suffered, & how the young human being was
not only a neglected & poor little & faints
with cold - hunger - today, tomorrow - I
children are picking themselves up, big & eye
empty of substance because they are
very sleepy. This is it - only children &
the old man - man - man - is sick; all
persons are healthy-minded in proportion
to their minds except, & remember that
sufficient to the end that was well explained
& a kind of an own experience before,
discontent, impatience, vanity, ill-humour
and restlessness in a lot of possessors of the
empty mind. Anger is not only
in the children as well as people as in
the first work in substance evident
among the adult persons one portion in
themselves, the necessary to feel. But, they
have not the voluntary reading of course for
a book written not more than a week
& good time in the evening. There is
not a man, who is - as we say